

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00765 211638Z

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ACTION COA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8667

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON, TBIO, SENV, XX

SUBJ: (1) U.S. PROPOSAL TO ADD CERTAIN SEA TURTLES

TO ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST.

(2) CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN
ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

REF: A. STATE 187; B. STATE 12169; C. COPENHAGEN 243

1. CONCERNING THE U.S. PROPOSAL (REF A) TO LIST
GREEN SEA-TURTLE (CHELONIA MYDAS) AND LOGGERHEAD
SEA-TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) AS ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILDLIFE UNDER THE MEANING OF SUBJECT (2) CONVENTION,
THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED THE RESULTS OF THE INQUIRIES
MADE BY THE DANISH MFA.

2. AMBASSADOR A. ROSENSTAND HANSEN OF THE MFA SAID
THAT THE MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
FROM THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH NOT ONLY
SUPPORTS THE U.S. PROPOSAL BUT ALSO FAVORS WIDENING
IT TO INCLUDE ALL SPECIES OF SEA TURTLE.
"THE TWO SPECIES OF SEA-TURTLE CHELONIA MYDAS AND
CARETTA CARETTA SHOULD DEFINITELY BE LISTED AS
ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILDLIFE. IT WOULD BE REASON-
ABLE TO PROPOSE INCLUSION IN THE LIST, OF ALL SPECIES
OF SEA-TURTLE, WHICH APPARENTLY IS THE INTENTION
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PAGE 02 COPENH 00765 211638Z

SINCE THE TWO SPECIES CONCERNED ARE THE MOST COMMON

ONES. INCLUSION OF ALL SPECIES IN THE LIST WOULD
PREVENT MISTAKES RESULTING FROM ERRONEOUS IDENTIFI-
CATION AND, MOREOVER, SEA-TURTLES ARE SO RARE THAT
THEY DESERVE BEING PROTECTED UNDER THE CONVENTION".

3. THE OTHER AUTHORITIES CONSULTED BY THE MFA ON
THE MATTER HAD NO COMMENTS TO MAKE ABOUT THE U.S.
PROPOSAL.

4. CONCERNING WHEN DENMARK WILL RATIFY THE
CONVENTION (REF B & C), ROSENSTAND HANSEN SAID THAT
THE MFA HOPES TO OBTAIN PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL IN
THE AUTUMN OF 1974, FOLLOWING WHICH RATIFICATION
FORMALITIES CAN BE COMPLETED IN A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME.
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